MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): I want to know the actual number of roads opened in the Agastisvaram taluk.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That question is answered.

The Geological Department.

32. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the name of the present State Geologist; and

(*b*) the new materials that have been discovered since the appointment of the State Geologist and the number of these materials that can be worked out on a commercial scale?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) There is no State Geologist at present.

(*b*) The member is referred to the publications of the Geological Department, which are available in the Library attached to the Office of the Director of Industries.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): With reference to the answer to part (*b*), may I know whether the reference made to the Geological Department will give the necessary information as to the minerals which were considered and finally found out as capable of being economically worked out?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) Those publications would be available in the Library.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I rise to a point of order for a ruling from the Chair. It has been the practice, even during this Session, for the interpellations being answered by giving reference to some unknown publications in some departments. Even Government *Gazettes* are referred to. They could have given the answer itself with less difficulty. There may not be half a dozen minerals. Is such a method of answering questions proper? May I request you, Sir, to make a ruling on the matter.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Will the member kindly state which rule or Standing Order is violated in respect of which a point of order is raised?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): A particular technical rule need not be violated for this. This is an encroachment upon the elementary rights and prerogative of the House. Therefore I can raise it.

PRESIDENT: The answer is perfectly simple. What you ask is that Government should sit down and make a summary of the various publications extending over a long period of time containing information on various points of greater or lesser importance. After all when you seek information you want to know where information is to be found. One of the truest forms of knowledge is to know where to find it. The Department has very kindly looked up and stated where the information could be found out. What is more, the

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[President.]

answer implies that the department will render you all facilities in going to their office, studying the books and making the research that is necessary for the answer you require. As far as possible when information is readily available it will be furnished so as to help the members as much as possible. When information is not readily available or cannot be collected easily the Government give the source of the information. When a member asks for information if he is really particular about it, he must be prepared to go to the source to obtain it and the Government have shown you the source.

Electroplating by the Department of Industries.

33. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the electroplating machine was purchased;

(*b*) the total expenditure incurred by the Government for introducing electroplating in the Department of Industries;

(*c*) the number of orders received and executed after its introduction; and

(*d*) the total income derived out of this business up to date (3rd Karkatakam 1103)?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) In October 1926.

(*b*) Rs. 774—Ch. 0 - Cash 8.

(*c*) and (*d*) No orders have been taken for execution. A set of rules for the execution of such orders have been sanctioned by the Government.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know Sir, with reference to answers to parts (*c*) and (*d*), after the installation of this machinery any work of electroplating has been carried out by the Department?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag Chief Secretary to Government*): No work for the general public has been done so far.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Apart from the orders executed for private persons I want to know whether even for Government or departmental purposes any work has been executed.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR: (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): They have been doing departmental work. But the Department was waiting for rules in order to execute private work. The rules have now been passed.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I want to know if it has been used for Government purposes.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): They were trying to find out the efficacy of the machinery. The question of rules has been before the Government for some time and the rules have now been passed.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether electro-plating has been found successful?

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